



WHEREAS, 50 years ago, on July 1, 1971 DEC was created by the Legislature with a mission to conserve, improve, and protect Alaska's natural resources and environment to enhance the health, safety, economic, and social well-being of Alaskans; and

WHEREAS, before the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) was founded the state had few mechanisms for controlling pollution, maintaining or improving the quality of Alaska's water, land, and air resources for the protection of the environment and the health of Alaskan citizens; and

WHEREAS, DEC has partnered with agencies to facilitate the safe development of Alaska's abundant resources of oil, gas, timber, land, minerals, fisheries, and wildlife, to protect our environment by controlling pollution and enforcing laws to improve the quality of life, and create economic opportunities for Alaskans; and

WHEREAS, Alaska is renowned worldwide for its magnificent beauty, scenic lakes, wetlands, rivers, and thousands of miles of coastline and beaches where our citizens and visitors recreate. DEC works to make it possible for all to enjoy clean air, clean water, and clean land; and

WHEREAS, as DEC celebrates its 50th Anniversary, we look back on its major achievements protecting Alaska's natural beauty and allowing for responsible development of its rich resources. DEC will continue forward, ensuring future generations of Alaskans will benefit from its beginnings.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Mike Dunleavy, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF ALASKA, recognize and congratulate the:

## Department of Environmental Conservation

Onits 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, and applaud their efforts and professionalism as they continue to serve the Great State of Alaska.

Dated: July 1, 2021



Mike Dunleavy, Governor who has also authorized the seal of the State of Alaska to be affixed to this proclamation.